

amount and quality of California teachers, improve the transfer process for community college students, and develop a new funding system for California community colleges.

Senator Scott's legislative efforts have earned him recognition as Legislator of the Year from the California Federation of Teachers, Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, Association of California Community College Administrators, Association of California School Boards, California State University, and the Child Development Policy Institute. He has an honorary doctorate from Pepperdine University and has been named the Alumnus of the Year at both Claremont Graduate University and Abilene Christian University. On October 28, he received Pasadena City College Foundation's Building the Spirit of a Vibrant Community Award.

Senator Scott's extensive community involvement includes the Coalition for a Non-Violent City, Pacific Oaks College's Board of Trustees, the Board of Regents at Pepperdine University and the Association of California Community College Administrators. Jack and his wife, Lacreata, have 10 grandchildren and four surviving children, Sharon Mitchell, Shelia Head, Amy Schones, and Greg Scott; their fifth child, Adam, died in 1993.

In 2009, Senator Scott will begin his position as Chancellor of California's community colleges.

It is my great pleasure to recognize the extraordinary achievements of Senator Jack Scott and I ask all Members of Congress to join me in thanking him for his service.

#### HONORING RYAN PHILLIP LAWTER

##### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Ryan Phillip Lawter of Holt, Missouri. Ryan is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1494, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Ryan has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Ryan has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Ryan Phillip Lawter for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

#### A TRIBUTE TO MRS. MARGARET WILLIAMS

##### HON. WM. LACY CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. CLAY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Margaret Williams, The Missouri Teacher of the Year 2008–2009 Recipient. The Missouri Teacher of the Year is a pres-

tigious honors program that focuses public attention on excellence in teaching. Williams, a 37 year educator has earned the respect and admiration of students, parents, and colleagues alike. She inspires students of all backgrounds and abilities to learn. For the aforementioned reasons, I enthusiastically honor Mrs. Williams today before Congress.

Mrs. Williams is a graduate of Beaumont High School in St. Louis, Missouri. She was inspired by her psychology teacher Mr. Brown to pursue a career in education. Mrs. Williams went on to graduate from the University of Missouri—St. Louis.

Mrs. Williams is the social studies department chair for University City High School in University City, Missouri where she has been teaching for the last 18 years. Williams who also teaches history, government, and an African-American experience course was one of six finalists to compete in this year's competition.

The Missouri Teacher of the Year program is conducted annually by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, in conjunction with the National Teacher of the Year program. Major funding for Missouri's program is provided by The Boeing Company, St. Louis, Missouri.

Before joining University City, Williams began her illustrious career in education as principal and administrator from 1986 to 1990 at West Side Christian Academy in St. Louis. After which she taught at the Visual and Performing Arts High School and Beaumont from 1971 to 1986.

Williams is the first in the University City School District to be named Missouri Teacher of the year and was honored with a special drum line presentation, and video made by the district as part of her nomination package.

Madam Speaker, Mrs. Williams has my absolute highest recommendation to be honored today. Her contributions to education and unyielding commitment to the youth of Missouri is unmatched. As a pioneer in the University City Schools and a role model to all educators that is worthy of recognition. I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring Mrs. Margaret Williams for being a top Missouri educator and being named the Missouri Teacher of the Year 2008–2009.

#### THE FAIRNESS DOCTRINE IS UNFAIR

##### HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, it seems that some in Congress are trying to call back the speech police and reinstate the Fairness Doctrine again. Although the Fairness Doctrine was abolished over 20 years ago, some of our colleagues just can't let it go.

This time they want to police and control the radio airwaves. I'm not talking about the former Soviet Union that controlled what Russians listened to on the radio, I'm talking about the American speech police.

The so-called "Broadcast Fairness Doctrine" is an attempt by the Feds to force private radio stations to be fair and balanced by forcing broadcasters to air opposing views of public importance. Sounds good, but who's going

to determine what fair is, the Federal fair police?

Are we going to let a bunch of Potomac River bureaucrats determine if a radio station in Tomball, Texas is being fair when it discusses politics? Sounds like government control of speech to me.

It is actually totalitarian state control of speech. And what does "fair" mean? Fair means different things to different folks. In some places in the country like Texas, fair is where you take your chickens to. That's why the word "fair" is not in the Constitution. The Constitution protects free speech, not fair speech. It says "Congress (that's us, folks) shall make no law abridging the freedom of speech." And the Constitution applies to the thieves of free speech and the government's speech police whether they like it or not.

And that's just the way it is.

#### TRIBUTE TO NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

##### HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the important research it is doing. There are few investments the Federal government makes that regularly pay such important dividends to the American taxpayer. The National Institutes of Health, the lead government agency tasked with preventing and curing diseases and disorders, is one such investment. While NIH conducts some biomedical research at its Bethesda, Maryland campus, between 80 to 90 percent of its budget funds research that takes place at universities, research centers and hospitals throughout the United States. At a time when stimulating the economy is on everyone's mind, we should remember that the NIH dollars that flow into our communities provide direct economic benefits in the form of increased employment and growth opportunities for research institutions and local businesses at the same time that they are funding research to save lives and improve the quality of life of all Americans. One example of that is NIH-supported research to identify a gene variant involved in isolated cleft lip.

About one in every 600 babies in the United States is born with isolated cleft lip and/or palate (roof of the mouth). While there are several surgeries to correct the condition, families suffer under the emotional and economic strain, and children often require additional treatment, including complex dental care and speech therapy. Because isolated clefts occur during fetal development from disruptions in the dynamic, but still poorly understood, interplay of genes, diet, and environment, ongoing research is seeking ways to prevent or reverse the problem before a baby is born.

One course of action has been to isolate genes involved in the developmental process. Six years ago, a gene known as IRF-6 was discovered. Within the gene's structure is a sequence variant known as a single nucleotide polymorphism (SNP). Scientists recently discovered that the frequency of this SNP was significantly higher in babies born with cleft lip only.